period. No further grants can be released as the award period of the Eleventh Finance Commission was over on 31.03.2005.

Non-appointment of Consultative Committee

†2965. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is not failure on the part of Government and Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs for being not able to get ten members for appointing Consultative Committee of a Ministry;

(b) whether non-formation of the Consultative Committee of the Ministries does not amount to the disrespect and violation of parliamentary tradition; and

(c) the steps taken by Government so far in the direction of appointing the Consultative Committees of all Ministries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) No Sir. As per the Guidelines on the Constitution, functioning and procedures of Consultative Committees, membership of a Consultative Committee is voluntary and a member can be nominated to one Consultative Committee only. Consultative Committees of some Ministries could not be constituted because the required number of preferences were not received from Honourable Members of Parliament for the membership of these Committees.

(c) The Government has been continuing its efforts to constitute the Consultative Committees for all the Ministries. While inviting preferences for nomination in Consultative Committees from the Members or Leaders of their parties/Groups, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs has been requesting them to consider the Ministries for which no Consultative Committees exist.

Arrangements for MPs

†2966. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state the protocol arrangements and priorities to be provided to Members of Parliament in the States in the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

matter of official ceremonies reservation for journey by Railways and Indian Airlines and reservation for Government accommodation, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): As per the Government instructions, in public functions organised by the Central Government in various States, the Members of Parliament of the area are to be invariably invited and all courtesies extended to them as per the Warrant of Precedence. For reservations in Railways, Indian Airlines and Government guest houses/holiday homes, due priority is to be given to the Members of Parliament.

Controversy over spectrum allocation

2967. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the controversy over spectrum allocation between cellular mobile operators using Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) and the coded division multiple access technology, been sorted out;

(b) if so, whether the Association of Unified Telecom Service Providers of India has been taken into confidence; and

(c) the long term solution for finding solution for this problem, which is affecting adversely the spread of mobile services in the rural areas, where it is required urgently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) is presently seized with the matter relating to spectrum allocation for 3rd Generation (3G) services by cellular mobile operators using Global System for Mobile Communication (GSM) and Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) technologies. TRAI has also released the Consultation Paper on "Allocation and pricing to spectrum for 3G services and Broadband Wireless Access".

(b) Comments from various stakeholders, including those from Association of Unified Service Providers of India (AUSPI) have been received by TRAI on their Consultation Paper in this regard. Open House Discussion on the Consultation Paper was also held on 7th July, 2006 in New Delhi.